

3.7.2 Threatened and Endangered Species

The Threatened and Endangered Species Act of 1973 allows the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to impose measures on the Department of Transportation to mitigate the environmental impacts of a transportation project on endangered animal and plant species, as well as critical wildlife habitats. Locating any rare species that exist within the study area during this early planning stage will help to avoid or minimize impacts.

A preliminary review of the Federally Listed Threatened and Endangered Species in the study area was completed to determine what effects, if any, the recommended improvements may have on wildlife. Mapping from the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources revealed occurrences of threatened or endangered plant and/or animal species in the study area, which are summarized in **Table 4**. These species are not impacted by any recommendations found in the Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

Table 4: Threatened or Endangered Species

Species	Common Name	Major Group	Federal Status
<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	American Eel	Vertebrate	FSC
<i>Aimophila aestivalis</i>	Bachman's Sparrow	Vertebrate	FSC
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald Eagle	Vertebrate	BGPA
<i>Lythrurus matutinus</i>	Pinewoods Shiner	Vertebrate	FSC
<i>Ambloplites cavifrons</i>	Roanoke Bass	Vertebrate	FSC
<i>Fusconaia masoni</i>	Atlantic Pigtoe	Invertebrate	FSC
<i>Alasmidonta heterodon</i>	Dwarf Wedgemussel	Invertebrate	E
<i>Elliptio steinstansana</i>	Tar River Spiny mussel	Invertebrate	E
<i>Elliptio lanceolata</i>	Yellow Lance	Invertebrate	FSC
<i>Lotus unifoliolatus</i> var. <i>helleri</i>	Prairie Birdsfoot trefoil	Vascular Plant	FSC

Source: NC Department of Environmental and Natural Resources, 2007